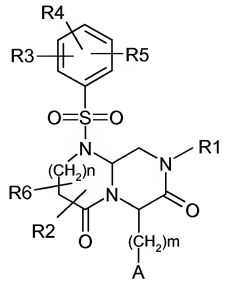
1 (currently amended). A compound of the formula I:



I

wherein

A is a 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 9-, 10-, 11-, and 12-membered mono-, bi- or spirobicyclic ring containing one or more heteroatoms selected from the group of N, O and S, and is optionally substituted with F, Cl, Br, NO_2, CF_3, OCF_3, CN, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, aryl, CON(R11)(R12), N(R13)(R14), OH, O-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, S-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, N(R15)CO$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl or COO-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl;

R11, R12, R13, R14, R15 are each independently H, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl or a heterocycle;

n is 1;

m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

R1 is R8, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, $(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9, (SO_2)-R8, (SO_2)-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, (SO_2)-$(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9, (C=O)-R8, (C=O)-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, (C=O)NH-R8, (C=O)-$(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9, (C=O)-NH-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, (C=O)-NH- $(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenylene-R9, COO-R8, COO-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylene-R8, COO-$(C_2$-

C_6)-alkenylene-R9, alkynylene-R9 or (C_1-C_4-alkyl)-heterocycle, wherein the alkylene component of said (C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, (SO_2)-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (SO_2)-(C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, (C=O)-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (C=O)-(C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, (C=O)-NH-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (C=O)-NH- (C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, COO-(C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9 and alkynylene-R9 groups is optionally substituted by F;

R8, R9 are each independently H, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, aryl, heterocycle or (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, wherein said aryl, heterocycle and (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl groups are optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted by F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, NO_2, CN, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, NH_2, CON(R11)(R12), N(R13)(R14), SO_2-CH_3, COOH, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or $CONH_2$;

R2 is NH_2, NO_2, N(R13)(R14), NH-SO_2-CH_3, NH-SO_2-R12, NR11-SO_2-R12, N(CO)R11, NHCONR11, N(C_1-C_6-alkyl)N^+(C_1-C_4-alkyl)$_3$ or a nitrogen-containing heterocycle, wherein said heterocycle is bonded via a nitrogen atom;

R3, R4, R5 are each independently H, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, NO_2, CN, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, O-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, S-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_2-C_6)-alkenyl, (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, O-(C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkenyl, O-(C_3-C_8)-cycloalkenyl, (C_2-C_6)-alkynyl, aryl, O-aryl (C_1-C_8)-alkylene-aryl, O-(C_1-C_8)-alkylene-aryl, S-aryl, N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$, SO_2-CH_3, COOH, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or CO-N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$;

R6 is H, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, NO_2, CN, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, O-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, S-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_2-C_6)-alkenyl, (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, O-(C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkenyl, O-(C_3-C_8)-cycloalkenyl, (C_2-C_6)-alkynyl, (C_0-C_8)-alkylene-aryl, O-(C_0-C_8)-alkylene-aryl, S-aryl, N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$, SO_2-CH_3, COOH, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or CO-N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$;

Aryl is phenyl or naphthyl;

Heterocycle is acridinyl, azocinyl, benzimidazolyl, benzofuryl, benzothienyl, benzothiophenyl, benzoxazolyl, benzthiazolyl, benztriazolyl, benztetrazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, benzimidazalinyl, carbazolyl, 4aH-carbazolyl, carbolinyl, quinazolinyl, quinolinyl, 4H-quinolizinyl, quinoxalinyl, quinuclidinyl, chromanyl, chromenyl, cinnolinyl, decahydroquinolinyl, 2H,6H-1,5,2-dithiazinyl, dihydrofuro[2,3-b]-tetrahydrofuran, furyl, furazanyl, imidazolidinyl, imidazolinyl, imidazolyl, 1H-indazolyl, indolinyl, indolizinyl, indolyl, 3H-indolyl, isobenzofuranyl, isochromanyl, isoindazolyl, isoindolinyl, isoindolyl, isoquinolinyl, benzimidazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, morpholinyl, naphthyridinyl, octahydroisoquinolinyl, oxadiazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolidinyl, oxazolyl, oxazolidinyl, pyrimidinyl, phenanthridinyl, phenanthrolinyl, phenazinyl, phenothiazinyl, phenoxathiinyl, phenoxazinyl, phthalazinyl, piperazinyl, piperidinyl, pteridinyl, purinyl, pyranyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolidinyl, pyrazolinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridooxazoles, pyridoimidazoles, pyridothiazoles, pyridinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolinyl, 2H-pyrrolyl, pyrrolyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, tetrahydroisoquinolinyl, tetrahydroquinolinyl, 6H-1,2,5-thiadazinyl, thiazolyl, 1,2,3-thiadiazolyl, 1,2,4-thiadiazolyl, 1,2,5-thiadiazolyl, 1,3,4-thiadiazolyl, thienyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl and xanthenyl and corresponding N-oxides;

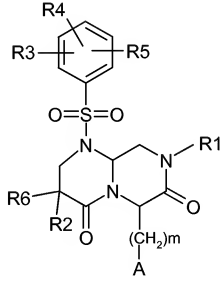
wherein said heterocycle is optionally substituted one or more times, each substituent independently chosen from F, Cl, Br, I, CF_3, NO_2, N_3, CN, COOH, $COO(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $CONH_2$, $CONH(C_1\text{-}C_6)$alkyl, $CON[(C_1\text{-}C_6)alkyl]_2$, $(C_1\text{-}C_6)$-alkyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$-alkenyl, $(C_2\text{-}C_6)$-alkynyl, $O\text{-}(C_1\text{-}C_6)$-alkyl, wherein one or more than one, or all hydrogen(s) in the alkyl radicals may be replaced by fluorine;

PO_3H_2, SO_3H, $SO_2\text{-}NH_2$, $SO_2NH(C_1\text{-}C_6)$-alkyl, $SO_2N[(C_1\text{-}C_6)\text{-alkyl}]_2$, $S\text{-}(C_1\text{-}C_6)$-alkyl, $S\text{-}(CH_2)_n$-phenyl, $SO\text{-}(C_1\text{-}C_6)$-

alkyl, SO-$(CH_2)_n$-phenyl, SO_2-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, SO_2-$(CH_2)_n$-phenyl, wherein n can be 0-6, and the phenyl radical may be substituted up to two times by F, Cl, Br, OH, CF_3, NO_2, CN, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl or NH_2; $C(NH)(NH_2)$, NH_2, NH-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$, NH(C_1-C_7)-acyl, phenyl and O-$(CH_2)_n$-phenyl, wherein n may be 0-6, and wherein the phenyl ring may be substituted one to 3 times by F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, NO_2, CN, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, NH_2, NH(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$, SO_2-CH_3, COOH, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or $CONH_2$;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2 (original). The compound of Claim 1 having the following structure Ia



Ia

wherein

A is a 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 9-, 10-, 11-, and 12-membered mono-, bi- or spirobicyclic ring containing one or more heteroatoms selected from the group of N, O and S, and is optionally substituted with F, Cl, Br, NO_2, CF_3, OCF_3, CN, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, aryl,

CON(R11)(R12), N(R13)(R14), OH, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, S-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, N(R15)CO(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl;

R11, R12, R13, R14, R15 are each independently H, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl or a heterocycle;

m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

R1 is R8, (C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, (SO_2)-R8, (SO_2)-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (SO_2)-(C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, (C=O)-R8, (C=O)-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (C=O)NH-R8, (C=O)-(C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, (C=O)-NH-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (C=O)-NH- (C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, COO-R8, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, COO-(C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, alkynylene-R9 or (C_1-C_4-alkyl)-heterocycle;

R8, R9 are each independently H, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, aryl, heterocycle or (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, wherein said aryl, heterocycle and (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl groups are optionally mono-, di- or tri-substituted by F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, NO_2, CN, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, NH_2, CON(R11)(R12), N(R13)(R14), SO_2-CH_3, COOH, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or $CONH_2$;

R2 is NH_2, NO_2, N(R13)(R14), NH-SO_2-CH_3, NH-SO_2-R12, NR11-SO_2-R12, N(CO)R11, NHCONR11, N(C_1-C_6-alkyl)N^+(C_1-C_4-alkyl)$_3$ or a nitrogen-containing heterocycle, wherein said heterocycle is bonded via a nitrogen atom;

R3, R4, R5 are each independently H, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, NO_2, CN, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, O-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, S-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_2-C_6)-alkenyl, (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, O-(C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkenyl, O-(C_3-C_8)-cycloalkenyl, (C_2-C_6)-alkynyl, aryl, O-aryl (C_1-C_8)-alkylene-aryl, O-(C_1-C_8)-alkylene-aryl, S-aryl, N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$, SO_2-CH_3, COOH, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or CO-N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$;

R6 is H, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, NO_2, CN, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, O-(C_1-C_4)-alkoxy-(C_1-C_4)-alkyl, S-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_2-C_6)-alkenyl, (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, O-(C_3-

C_8)-cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkenyl, O-(C_3-C_8)-cycloalkenyl, (C_2-C_6)-alkynyl, aryl, O-aryl, (C_1-C_8)-alkylene-aryl, O-(C_1-C_8)-alkylene-aryl, S-aryl, N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$, SO_2-CH_3, COOH, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or CO-N((C_1-C_6)-alkyl)$_2$;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

3 (original). The compound of Claim 2 wherein

A is aryl wherein said aryl is optionally substituted by F, Cl, Br, NO_2, CF_3, OCF_3, CN, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, aryl, CON(R11)(R12), N(R13)(R14), OH, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, S-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, N(R15)CO(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl;

R11, R12, R13, R14, R15 are each independently H, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl or heterocycle;

m is 1;

R1 is R8, (C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, (SO_2)-R8, (SO_2)-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (SO_2)-(C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, (C=O)-R8, (C=O)-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (C=O)NH-R8, (C=O)-(C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, (C=O)-NH-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, (C=O)-NH-(C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, COO-R8, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8, COO-(C_2-C_6)-alkenylene-R9, alkynylene-R9 or (C_1-C_4-alkyl)-heterocycle;

R8, R9 are each independently H, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, aryl, heterocycle or (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, wherein said aryl, heterocycle and (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl groups are optionally mono-, di-, or tri-substituted by F, Cl, Br, I, OH, CF_3, NO_2, CN, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, NH_2, CON(R11)(R12), N(R13)(R14), SO_2-CH_3, COOH, COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or $CONH_2$;

R2 is NH_2, NO_2, N(R13)(R14), NH-SO_2-CH_3, NH-SO_2-R12, NR11-SO_2-R12, N(CO)R11, NHCONR11, N(C_1-C_6-alkyl)N^+(C_1-C_4-alkyl)$_3$ or a nitrogen-containing heterocycle, wherein said heterocycle is bonded via a nitrogen atom,

R3 is H

R4, R5 are each independently H, F, Cl, Br, OH, CF_3, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or (C_1-C_6)-alkyl;

R6 is H;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

4 (original). The compound of Claim 3 wherein

A is aryl, wherein said aryl group is optionally substituted by F, Cl, Br, NO_2, CF_3, OCF_3, CN, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, aryl, CON(R11)(R12), N(R13)(R14), OH, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, S-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl, N(R15)CO(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or COO-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl;

R11, R12, R13, R14, R15 are each independently H, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl or heterocycle;

m is 1;

R1 is (C_1-C_6)-alkyl or (C_1-C_6)-alkylene-R8;

R8, R9 are each independently F, Cl, Br, I, OH or CF_3;

R2 is NH_2, NO_2, CN, N(R13)(R14), NH-SO_2-CH_3, NH-SO_2-R12, NR11-SO_2-R12, N(CO)R11, NHCONR11, N(C_1-C_6-alkyl)N^+(C_1-C_4-alkyl)$_3$ or a nitrogen-containing heterocycle, wherein said heterocycle is bonded via a nitrogen atom,

R3 is H;

R4 is F, Cl, Br, OH, CF_3, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or (C_1-C_6)-alkyl;

R5 is H, F, Cl, Br, OH, CF_3, OCF_3, O-(C_1-C_6)-alkyl or (C_1-C_6)-alkyl;

R6 is H;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

5 (original). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

6-8 (canceled).

9 (original). A method of treating obesity comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a compound of Claim 1.

10-12 (canceled).

13 (original). A method of reducing weight in mammals comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a compound of Claim 1.

14-15 (canceled).